

CONTEMPORARY PRAISE AND INTEGRITY MUSIC

October 9, 2012 (David Cloud, Fundamental Baptist Information Service, P.O. Box 610368, Port Huron, MI 48061, 866-295-4143, fbns@wayoflife.org; for instructions about subscribing and unsubscribing or changing addresses, see the information paragraph at the end of the article)

The very popular and influential Integrity Music company (also owns Hosanna Music) arose out of the charismatic movement, and the music it spreads to well over 100 countries is of the most radical charismatic-ecumenical character.

Integrity recorded an album at the Brownsville Assembly of God (home of the strange “Pensacola Outpouring”). Don Moen is the “creative director” for Integrity. In an interview with the *Pentecostal Evangel*, a magazine published by the Assemblies of God, Moen described the power of the Laughing Revival music in these words: “Because something is imparted when you listen to this tape. I don’t want it to sound spooky or mysterious, but there’s something powerful about embracing the music of the revival. The fire of the revival can stir in you even as you listen to the songs that took place at the Brownsville revival” (“Don Moen Discusses Music at Brownsville Assembly,” *Pentecostal Evangel*, November 10, 1996). The “revival” to which he refers is not a biblical revival; it is a “revival” in which people become drunken and stagger about and shake uncontrollably and fall down and are unable to perform the most basic functions of life. The pastor at Brownsville, John Kilpatrick, testified that it took him a half hour just to put on his socks when he was drunk with the Brownsville spirit. He laid on the church platform for as long as four hours, unable to get up. His wife has been unable to cook their food or clean the house. Whatever this “revival” is, it is not something that conforms to Scripture. Yet Moen testifies that this spirit can be imparted through Integrity music.

We believe this is true and it is one of the reasons why contemporary praise music is so effective at transforming the character of once staunch Bible-believing churches.

Integrity’s Hosanna! Music worship albums include songs by **ROBERT GAY**, who records music from alleged prophecies given by charismatic “prophets.” Gay has written hundreds of choruses, and many of them have been professionally recorded. Integrity has produced at least a dozen of Gay’s prophetic songs. Gay claims that the Holy Spirit gives him visions for his songs, yet we know that these visions are not of God as they are not Scriptural. Gay is connected with Bill Hamon’s Christian International network of supposed prophetic ministries, which promotes the deception that God is continuing to give revelation through prophets and apostles today. Hamon claims that God will soon raise up new apostles who will operate in the miracle-working power of the first-century apostles and who will unite the churches and denominations. He claims that the Laughing Revival and Promise Keepers are part of this restoration process (Hamon, *Apostles, Prophets and the Coming Moves of God: God’s End-Time Plans for His Church and Planet Earth*, 1997).

Integrity's Hosanna! Music worship albums also include songs of other key churches that have been captured by the strange and very dangerous Laughing Revival movement. Another one of these is **HILLS CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTRE**. Hosanna published an album entitled "Shout to the Lord" which was recorded at this church in Sydney, Australia. It has become hugely influential, being sung even in fundamental Baptist churches. The worship leader at Hills Christian Life Centre, **DARLENE ZSCHECH**, is a Pentecostal pastor.

Many of the "praise" songs on this album are extremely man centered. The lyrics to the songs often present a theology of "holding out faithful."

"I will never be the same again/ I've closed the door/ I will walk the path/ I'll run the race" ("I Will Never Be" from *Shout to the Lord*).

"I love you/ I need you/ Though my world may fall/ I'll never let you go" (Jesus, Lover of My Soul" from *Shout to the Lord*).

Instead of the Christian rejoicing in God's promises to keep him, these songs have the Christian promising to hold on to God. It is man-centered theology.

There is also the false Pentecostal latter rain theology in some of the songs.

"I believe the promise about the visions and the dreams/ That the Holy Spirit will be poured out/ And His power will be seen/ Well the time is now/ The place is here/ And His people have come in faith/ There's a mighty sound/ And a touch of fire/ When we've gathered in one place" ("I Believe the Presence" from *Shout to the Lord*).

Integrity is totally committed to the end-time heresy of ecumenism. Don Moen stated their objective in an interview with *Christianity Today* as follows: "I've discovered that worship [music] is transdenominational, transcultural. IT BRIDGES ANY DENOMINATION. Twenty years ago there were many huge divisions between denominations. Today I think the walls are coming down. In any concert that I do, I will have 30-50 different churches represented."

The "transdenominational" character of contemporary worship music should be a loud warning to any true Bible believer. It is this "transdenominational" character that makes it so transformational when it comes into a fundamentalist church.

Integrity Worship Institute offers a master's degree program in partnership with REGENT UNIVERSITY in Virginia Beach, Virginia. This charismatic school was founded by Pat Robertson, one of the most radical ecumenists alive. In 1985, Robertson "revealed that during 25 years of broadcasting, he has 'worked for harmony and reconciliation between Protestants and Catholics' and 'refrained from airing major theological differences.' He told Roman Catholic Bishop Sullivan, 'I have been your friend and booster. ... It has been my pleasure to assist on repeated occasions the church you serve'" (*Christian News*, July 22, 1985). In 1991, Robertson invited a Roman Catholic, Keith Fournier, to be the executive director of the American Center for Law and Justice at Regent. Several of the Regent professors are Roman Catholics. A Catholic mass is held on Regent's campus every week. "A frequent leader of special masses is Bishop Walter Sullivan, head of the Richmond Diocese, whose motto is 'To Unite All in Christ.' . . . To

this end he serves as the Bishop-President of Pax Christi USA (the national Catholic peace movement) and is outspoken regarding his support for ordination of homosexuals” (“Roman Catholicism: The Seduction Continues,” *Frontline*, May-June 2000). Sullivan also supports homosexuals and claims that homosexuality is a natural condition. After Robertson met with Pope John Paul II in 1995, he said, “We all want to build bridges with the Catholic Church” (*Calvary Contender*, Sept. 1, 1996).

Speaking at the St. Louis 2000 conference, which I attended with press credentials, Robertson said, “We need to have some Catholic charismatics come into our Baptist churches to teach us how to worship.” This illustrates the great confusion that surrounds the contemporary praise movement. Experience is exalted far beyond sound doctrine. Otherwise, how can you explain such a strange statement from the lips of a former Southern Baptist? How can a Roman Catholic teach a Bible believer how to worship God? The Roman Catholic holds a false faith-works gospel, which Galatians chapter 1 says is cursed of God, and he worships the false christ of the mass. One of the other speakers at St. Louis 2000 was Catholic priest Tom Forrest. At another conference that I attended, I heard Forrest say that he praises God for purgatory, because without purgatory we can’t go to heaven. Forrest is one of the Catholic charismatics who, according to Pat Robertson, is supposed to teach us how to worship.

The fact that Integrity Worship Institute is comfortable with Pat Robertson’s Regent University is irrefutable evidence of its capitulation to the most radical elements of the charismatic ecumenical movement, and it is a loud warning to those who are tempted to “adapt” some of their praise music.

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